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THE PENTECOSTAL
evangel
NOT BY MIGHT, NOR BY POWER, BUT BY MY SPIRIT, SAITH THE LORD
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"WE MUST ALWAYS BEAR IN MIND
THAT WHENEVER A MAN POSSESSES
A TRUE, LIVING FAITH IN CHRIST,
HE WILL ALSO BRING
FORTH ACCEPTABLE
WORKS AS EVIDENCE."



ETERNAL SECURITY—

THE SECURITY OF BELIEVERS, according to theologians holding extreme Calvinistic views, is unconditional and eternal. That is, regardless of how a Christian may live, it is impossible for him ever to be lost again.

However, such teaching has no foundation in God's Word, and its effect has been very harmful in its tendency to create looseness and carelessness in the life of many believers.

While I agree heartily with the fundamental precept that we are saved by grace through faith, without works (Ephesians 2:8, 9), I also fully believe the companion precept which states, "What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? *can faith save him?* Faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone. *Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only.* For as the body without the spirit is dead, so *faith without works is dead also*" (James 2:14, 17, 24, 26).

In other words, faith and works are the body and spirit of a true Christian life; the two working together constitute living, vital Christianity. Regardless of what the individual may profess, if Christlike works are nonexistent in his life, saving faith is also nonexistent, according to the inspired apostle.

This teaching does not in any way contradict Paul's statement that a man is justified by faith apart from the works of the law. Paul is speaking of how we *enter* the door by grace into the spiritual kingdom of Christ. But James tells us how we may *test the genuineness* of the faith which many profess but do not actually possess—which test will decide the acceptance or rejection in the day of judgment of all professing Christians.

We must always bear in mind that whenever a man possesses a true, living faith in Christ, he will also bring

forth acceptable works toward God and man as the outward, visible evidence of such living, saving faith. Thus, when a man professes Christianity and does not show it by a life of godliness, it is positive proof that the vital faith which is necessary to insure his eternal security is nonexistent in his heart. Therefore, the Scripture can say with perfect truth, "To him that worketh not, but believeth . . . God imputeth righteousness without works" (Romans 4:5, 6). And then with the same veracity, "Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only."

Paul himself stoutly supports this latter teaching, saying: "They profess that they know God; but in *works* they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate" (Titus 1:16).

The proponents of the doctrine of unconditional eternal security contend that a person once saved cannot be lost; that salvation is entirely of grace; that it is the gift of God, and that it is by faith only. As already shown, man is not saved by faith alone, but partly by works, which are the evidence of real, living faith in Christ. "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the Kingdom of heaven; but *he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven*" (Matthew 7:21).

Advocates of the "once saved—always saved" theory frequently quote John 10:28 and Romans 8:38, 39. While we would not minimize the value of these precious promises in any way, we cannot overlook other passages of Scripture upon which these promises are based. I am fully convinced that all the devils in hell cannot separate me from God and His eternal salvation if I *will* it so; but any man may be drawn from God by his own will, lust, or desire, and be lost (James 1:14-16).

We are sometimes asked: "If we have been born again, can we be unborn?" The answer is: Yes, we can become

By HENRY H. NESS / Hayward, California

Is it un-conditional?

unborn (spiritually dead) by persistently practicing sin and failing to abide in Christ our Saviour. We die physically if we take poison into our bodies, and it is possible to die spiritually by poisoning our spiritual life with sin.

Eternal life, you must remember, is in the Son. "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 6:23). So long as we are *in* the Son, we have eternal life, but when we cease to abide, or remain, in the Son, we die spiritually and can no longer claim eternal life. Eternal life, therefore, is conditional and based upon the following if's:

1. If we abide (remain) in Christ (John 15:2, 5, 6).
2. If we continue in the faith (Acts 14:22; Colossians 1:23).
3. If we continue in grace (Acts 13:43).
4. If we live in the Spirit (Romans 8:13).
5. If we keep our bodies in subjection (1 Corinthians 9:27).
6. If we are followers of God (Ephesians 5:1, 3, 5-7).
7. If we do the will of the Father (1 John 2:17).
8. If we remain steadfast (2 Peter 3:17; Hebrews 3:6).
9. If we do not neglect our salvation (Hebrews 2:3; 12:25).
10. If we love the brethren (1 John 3:15).

Does this mean, then, that we are saved by works? No, we are saved by grace. No amount of works that we do can ever be sufficient to bring about our salvation. At our very best we come short, but by the grace of God we have an Advocate with the Father; and through His blood we have forgiveness and cleansing from our sins. "If any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous" (1 John 2:1). "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins,

and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9).

However, God demands that we be earnest and sincere, endeavoring by His help to obey His Word and live as a Christian ought to live. For the one who deliberately walks away from God into sin there is nothing but perdition and damnation in store (Hebrews 10:38, 39; Galatians 5:19-21). Furthermore, the state of a backslider is worse than before he was saved (2 Peter 2:18-22). However, if he repents and returns to God, he will be restored to spiritual life, salvation, and fellowship with God. Such a backslidden brother is saved from spiritual *death* when he returns to the Lord (James 5:19, 20).

But if a backslider continues to reject the wooing of the Spirit and the call of God to return, he becomes guilty of sinning the "sin unto death." See 1 John 5:16; Genesis 6:3; Hebrews 10:28-31.

The Bible further declares that the backslider's name may be blotted out of the Book of Life. "Whosoever hath sinned against me, *him will I blot out of my book*" (Exodus 32:33). Needless to say, if the name had not once been written in the book, it could not be blotted out. To the church at Sardis the Lord sent this message: "He that overcometh . . . I will not blot out his name out of the book of life" (Revelation 3:5). The inference is that if we fail to overcome, He will blot our names out.

The Ephesian church was warned that unless they repented He would remove the candlestick (their right to be called a church—Revelation 1:20; 2:5). He warned the lukewarm (backsliders) in the Laodicean church that He would spew them out of His mouth unless they would repent (Revelation 3:16).

A backslider may be lost also by going so far as openly to deny Christ as the Son of the living God. "For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, and have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, if they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame" (Hebrews 6:4-6).

But some say such persons were never converted or thoroughly saved. Of course they were! A better description of thoroughly saved men is not found anywhere. First, they had full understanding of the things of God. Second, they had tasted of the heavenly gift (the Son of God). Third, the Holy Spirit was abiding in their hearts. Fourth, they had been feeding upon God's Word. Fifth, the miracle-working power of God was operating in their lives. "If they shall fall away," this passage says, it is impossible "to renew them again unto repentance. . . ." How could they fall away from something they had never attained? And how could they be renewed if they had not come to repentance before? Most certainly this is a description of souls who were once thoroughly converted, but who deliberately turned their back upon the Son of God and His salvation.

The doctrine of unconditional eternal security is an abominable heresy, "turning the grace of God into lasciviousness"; it is not according to the "faith which was delivered unto the saints" (Jude 3, 4).

Yes, we can be eternally saved, eternally secure; *but only as we abide in the Lord Jesus Christ and obey the Scriptures.*

God Is Never Obsolete

THE ADVANCES BEING MADE by modern science are almost unbelievable. Who would have dreamed a few years ago that we would live to see television pictures coming from the interior of a manned spacecraft orbiting the earth?

Next the astronauts expect to land on the moon. It may happen before many more months have passed. When it does, we must not be surprised; for God is permitting men to make amazing discoveries until it seems nothing will be hidden from them.

The heart transplants that are occurring with increasing frequency are another source of wonder. Physicians and surgeons have such great knowledge and skill today that some people seem to feel they don't need God anymore. They have stopped talking about divine miracles and they speak of medical miracles instead.

When men learned how to split the atom and produce nuclear energy, they felt they had unlocked the secret of the universe. They had discovered the formula by which all substances are held together. But this did not make God obsolete. If ever men needed God, it is in these days when they have such vast knowledge at their disposal and don't know what to do with it. Men need more wisdom to use their discoveries wisely than they needed to discover them. Only from the Lord can men obtain it.

Now we are being told that men will soon be able to create life. An article in *Time* (October 25, 1968) tells about the three American scientists (Doctors Nirenberg, Holley, and Khorana) who have been awarded the 1968 Nobel prize for physiology and medicine because they "broke the genetic code." By their accomplishments they "have not only provided a clearer understanding of the nature of life," says *Time*; "they have brought closer the day when molecular biologists will be able to correct genetic defects, control heredity, and perhaps even create life itself."

When that day comes, men will still need God in their laboratories and consultation rooms, and the wisest among them will give Him the glory. It will only be by His help they will discover the secrets of life and only as He guides them will they be able to use their knowledge for the good of the human race.

Having discovered DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) men believe they have discovered the stuff from which life is made. Further, men have discovered certain combinations of amino acids and proteins believed to be factors which control heredity. They are beginning to read the genetic code. Once they can read it accurately, what is to stop them from changing the combinations? Then they will be able to control heredity and regulate a person's sex, size, shape, color, and intelligence before he is born.

But God will never be obsolete. With the ability to change the heredity, sex, and other qualities of a baby before it is born, man will need God more than ever, both to control his actions and to control his spirit.

Roger L. Knudson, writing in *Eternity* (May 1968) on the subject, "What If Man Creates Life?" made the following statement:

"Life so created would be of the simplest virus-like kind. Some scientists believe that cancer is also caused by a simple virus kind of life. If man can create and control a virus-like form of life, may he not also control and kill another type of virus? What blessing if cancer, one of the four major killers, could be stopped. On the other hand, a Nobel prizewinner warned that such life might be virulent enough to destroy all other life on the earth."

—r.c.c.

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STATEMENT OF FAITH

WE BELIEVE the Bible to be the inspired and only infallible and authoritative Word of God. WE BELIEVE that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost. WE BELIEVE in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal future return to this earth in power and glory to rule a thousand years. WE BELIEVE in the Blessed Hope, which is the Rapture of the Church at Christ's coming. WE BELIEVE that the only means of being cleansed from sin is through repentance and faith in the precious blood of Christ. WE BELIEVE that regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential for personal salvation. WE BELIEVE that the redemptive work of Christ on the cross provides healing of the human body in answer to believing prayer. WE BELIEVE that the baptism of the Holy Spirit, according to Acts 2:4, is given to believers who ask for it. WE BELIEVE in the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a holy life. WE BELIEVE in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost, the one to everlasting life and the other to everlasting damnation.

A WAVE OF TERROR



By DORIS STUBER MOOSE

THE RADIO BLARED: "There has been another earthquake in Chile."

It was, of course, a terrible tragedy for the people in Chile; but the effect was not confined to that country. Several thousand miles away, people on the island of Maui in the Hawaiian Islands had looks of serious concern on their faces. For earthquakes in Chile could produce destructive tidal waves in Maui.

Whenever tidal waves are a threat, a piercing whistle sounds to warn the whole island to take precautions. Usually there are at least several hours to prepare for the powerful waves.

At the sound of the whistle, people anywhere near the coast begin to watch the ocean. If there are telltale signs, they board up their windows and carry everything from the yard into the house. Everything movable is carried upstairs or to the highest spot in the house. Even stoves and refrigerators have been carried up narrow stairs as people brace themselves against the watery destruction of which they have been warned.

The telltale signs are actually easy to observe. Each time the waves wash the sand, they come in a bit farther; and each time they recede, they back up farther, leaving more sandy area. As more of the ocean floor is bared, observers can notice fish and shells of all kinds lying on the waterless bottom. Wise observers stay in a safe shelter, realizing that the farther out the ocean recedes, the

more powerfully and the more quickly the final tidal wave will strike.

But not all people are wise. Missionaries say they have actually seen foolish people who, knowing of the danger to come, take their chances and run out on the sandy ocean floor to scoop up the flopping fish and the colorful shells and gather them into large sacks to sell to others or to feed their families. They stay longer and longer, trying to outguess the waves that have pulled out and seem so far away.

But suddenly the whole ocean is released in a mighty crash as tons of waves up to 30 and 40 feet high come smashing into shore, sometimes as fast as 600 miles an hour. For those in their path there is no escape. There is time for only a cry for help as the foolish people, who ignored the warnings in order to loot the ocean floor, perish with their treasures.

How much these foolish ones are like those who ignore the warnings of coming judgment and try to outguess God by planning to prepare for it at the last minute. They continue to pick up the colorful treasures of this world and indulge in its passing pleasures.

God's Word says, "The wise shall inherit glory: but shame shall be the promotion of fools" (Proverbs 3:35). "Then shall they cry unto the Lord, but he will not hear them: he will even hide his face from them at that time, as they have behaved themselves ill in their doings" (Micah 3:4). Today you may be saved. Tomorrow may be too late!

—S. S. Times and Gospel Herald

RECEIVING POWER FROM ON HIGH

By WM. F. P. BURTON / *Preston, Lancashire, England*

THE LORD JESUS told His followers not to leave the city of Jerusalem until they had been endued with power from on High (Luke 24:49). What a sad mistake some men and women make when they imagine they can dispense with this divine endowment with power which even the Son of God needed!

What every Christian needs above everything else, if he is to be a witness to the Lord Jesus, is to be endued with this power from on High—to be filled with the Holy Spirit. Without the Spirit one is powerless to work for God.

THE "WHY" OF RECEIVING

May we consider the gift of the Holy Spirit as it concerns the recipient himself; the unsaved around him; the church of which he is a member; and God who sent the Holy Spirit upon him.

(a) The recipient himself will find God more real, Christ more real, salvation more real, and the Bible more real than ever before, for the Holy Spirit is "the Spirit of Truth" or reality (John 14:17).

He teaches and reminds us as no human teacher can do (John 14:26); guiding us into truth and showing us things to come (John 16:13; 1 John 2:20, 27). Heaven will no longer seem a vague dream, but a glorious and glowing hope. Hell will appear in all its horror and despair. Today many have ceased to believe in hell because they have not the Holy Spirit (Jude 19).

Christ said, "He shall testify of me" (John 15:26). Oh, how the Holy Spirit delights to stir the believer's heart to love and loyalty to the Lord Jesus as He is displayed

Wm. F. P. Burton went to Africa in 1914 to preach the gospel and he has been actively connected with missionary work ever since. Though officially retired from responsibilities of leadership in the Congo Evangelistic Mission of which he was co-founder, he still travels extensively and when he is not preaching or teaching he is writing books.

in all His glorious grace and holiness. He teaches us to pray in the Spirit (Ephesians 6:18), and pours into our hearts love to our Lord and to all around (1 Corinthians 13).

(b) The unsaved are convicted by the Holy Spirit (John 16:8-11).

A young Spirit-filled man went on a visit to his aunt's home. She met him at the door and said, "You are very welcome indeed, but please don't talk religion. It makes your cousins uncomfortable." He was forbidden to witness, but they could not prevent his praying. The result that night was that his aunt followed him to his room, where she burst into tears and said, "I feel as if I were the most wicked woman that ever lived. Do show me how to be saved." Before long the aunt and cousins too, convicted of their sins by the Holy Spirit, made a clear profession of faith in the Lord Jesus.

Conviction of sin is a note often lacking in modern evangelism. That is why conversions are so shallow and unsatisfactory. But be filled and go on being filled with the Holy Spirit, and once more you will see men weep and cry out, under the sense of their own sinfulness and their need of forgiveness. See how the apostles' words cut to the very hearts of those who heard them (Acts 2:37; 5:33).

(c) The church too has need of Spirit-filled members. That is the meaning of the much-misused passage in 1 Corinthians 12:13: "By one Spirit are we all baptized into one body." We believers are all members of the true Church, which is His body (Acts 2:47). Each of us has some specific part to play in the church, and because of the needs of the church we must be empowered by the Holy Spirit.

(d) There is also the Godward aspect of the gift of the Holy Spirit. Our Heavenly Father longs for our love

and fellowship, and He no longer has a center of worship in Jerusalem, nor any other special temple. True worshippers worship Him today "in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him" (John 4:23).

There is much of wordy insincerity that goes up to God, much of shallow form; but He longs for sincere heart-love, such as is stirred up by the Holy Spirit.

THE "HOW" OF RECEIVING

Every child of God is born of the Spirit (John 3:5); every one manifests in more or less degree the Spirit of Christ (Romans 8:9), and each is led by the Spirit (Romans 8:14).

The Scriptures tell us, however, that really saved people still lacked this blessing (Acts 2:4; 8:14-17; 19:5, 6). It was after they believed that the Ephesians were sealed with the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 1:13). Indeed, it is only an already saved person who can possibly receive the Holy Spirit (John 14:17).

(a) The Spirit is only given to those whose hearts are purified (Acts 15:9). Our bodies are the temples of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:19), but He will not enter a temple that is defiled. That is why Simon was told, "Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter; for thy heart is not right in the sight of God" (Acts 8:21).

(b) We must ask, if we would receive the Holy Spirit, coming to God in the same simplicity of attitude as though we were coming to an earthly father (Luke 11:13). This has nothing to do with the unsaved. It is essentially a matter between father and child.

(c) The Holy Spirit is given to those whose hearts are athirst, and who come to Christ in eager faith (John 7:37-39). Christian, God desires to send forth through you rivers of living water, bringing cleansing and refreshing to needy souls around. Do not hesitate, but come to the Lord with hunger and thirst of soul, and He will give you the Holy Spirit and power from on High.

(d) God gives the Holy Spirit "to them that obey him" (Acts 5:32). If a child of God refuses to obey Him, he may pray and yearn and plead, but he will never receive the Holy Spirit.

We knew a young lady who prayed for months that God would endue her with power from on High, but all in vain. During this time there was a controversy raging in her heart concerning certain jewelry that she was wearing. At last she snatched off the baubles and flung them from her. Immediately the Spirit came upon her and she spoke with tongues and gave interpretation. In the years that followed, she was used in winning hundreds for Christ.

Similarly a Methodist minister, a brilliant linguist, was very hungry for the power of the Spirit. He heard that we were holding a convention in Bradford, but he had been told that our teaching was full of error. He decided to attend the meetings to judge for himself. This entailed a short railway journey. During a time of worship in the meeting this minister was amazed to hear the seven languages with which he was acquainted being spoken perfectly, in such love and adoration to the Lord as he had never before encountered. He was dumb-founded! After the meeting he found himself sitting alone in the railway carriage, on his journey home. Soon he was praying and pleading with God to baptize him too with the Holy Spirit. The impression struck him,

"How unfitting for you to ask to be filled with the Spirit, while you sit puffing at your pipe." He therefore flung his pipe out of the railway carriage window, and his tobacco pouch after it; and before he reached his destination he too had received the Holy Spirit and was praising God in new tongues.

THE EVIDENCE OF RECEIVING

On the day of Pentecost they all spoke with tongues when they were filled with the Holy Ghost (Acts 2:4). There were probably a hundred and twenty of them, both men and women (Acts 1:15), and every one of them spoke with tongues.

Moreover, when the question arose as to whether Peter was right in ministering to the Gentiles, it was decided once for all by the statement, "The Holy Ghost fell on them, as on us at the beginning. . . . Forasmuch then as God gave them the like gift as he did unto us . . . what was I, that I could withstand God?" (Acts 11:15-17). What the "like gift" was can be decided easily by reference to Acts 10:45, 46: "On the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost. For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God." There is not the slightest doubt that those tongues were the admitted proof that the Holy Ghost was poured out upon the Gentiles.

In Acts 19:6 we see precisely the same thing. The twelve Ephesian disciples were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus, and "the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied." Only two other cases are recorded in the Acts of the Apostles of believers receiving the Holy Ghost. At Samaria we are not told what happened when they received the Holy Spirit; but that there was a supernatural accompaniment is clear, since Simon wanted power to produce the same result (Acts 8:19). In the case of Paul, there is no record of tongues being spoken at the time he received, yet he himself writes later: "I thank my God, I speak with tongues more than ye all" (1 Corinthians 14:18).

Thus in every case where details of what occurred are given, we are told that all spoke in tongues when they received the Holy Spirit. Moreover it was the accepted evidence of having received the gift of the Spirit. In Isaiah 28:11 we read it is the people of "stammering lips and another tongue" who are God's witnesses—compare 1 Corinthians 14:21, 22.

However, one must guard against possible counterfeits (for spiritists and other unsaved people sometimes speak in tongues also). In addition to the manifestation of tongues, therefore, the strongest evidence of the gift of the Holy Spirit is that the recipient will bring forth the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22, 23). Apart from this, neither tongues nor any other evidence is of value (1 Corinthians 13:1, 2).

THE URGENCY OF RECEIVING

In conclusion let me appeal to you, child of God, not to be content with anything but God's best. There are souls to be saved, and churches to be established. Possibly you have had blessed spiritual experiences, and have had good Bible teaching, yet you are dissatisfied, powerless.

God has not failed, but human form and ritual have failed. Pray and cry to God until you are filled with the Holy Spirit, and you too will be charged with power from on High.

A HINDU FINDS CHRIST

By Evangelist **QUENTIN EDWARDS**

I FIRST MET RAMA in Calcutta. He had just returned from America after completing postgraduate studies in Columbia University.

Rama was raised in Orissa, India, by high caste Hindu parents. He told me, "I grew up with a very fierce hatred for Christians and especially for missionaries." His family ties were so strong that his father wept when Rama left for five years study in America.

His hatred for Christians grew even more intense during his stay in New York City. Of course, he thought that all Americans were Christians because he had never known a person who was a born-again believer.

As he observed the sin and the evil among those around him, he thought about those people going to his India to spread their Christianity. He said to me, "I vowed then and there to return to India and to put out every missionary and to kill every Christian if possible."

Every day his hatred grew more passionate. On the street he walked up to a New Yorker and hit him with his fist. At the same time he was shouting,

"I hate your Jesus; I hate Christians!" Rama is a small man, typically Indian. He confessed to me that he received the worst end of the altercation. However, he didn't mind being beaten because he was doing it for his gods.

He disliked going out sight-seeing. With each venture around the sinful cities came new vows to do away with this abominable Christianity in India. In every letter to his parents he declared his hatred and bitterness toward Christians.

One day in the privacy of his room in the university dorm, Rama was going through the ritual of his Hindu worship. All of a sudden a white-robed man stood before him. This man said, "Rama, I am Jesus whom you hate. I died on the cross for you. I love you and I want you to be a great light for me in your own nation among your own people."

Rama fell to the floor as one dead. At that moment he felt himself cleansed from all sin. All the hate and bitterness at once disappeared. He felt himself full of love for all believers in Jesus Christ.

The first thing he did was to write a letter to his father explaining what had happened. The second thing he did was to go out searching for a true follower of Jesus Christ. He was led through the wilderness of the big city to a small church where people were worshipping God in a manner different from anything he had ever seen. He found out that these people called themselves Pentecostal. His fellowship with them was more precious than even his close family ties back at home.

His experience with Christ and with these believers grew sweeter every day. He found that he was looking with great compassion on those around him who were bound by sin.

After receiving his degree Rama returned to India. I was on my seventh world missionary journey and visiting with Mark Buntain when I heard this wonderful testimony. Rama was working with Brother Buntain in the Assembly of God in Calcutta for a few weeks before going on back to Orissa.

He has already witnessed about his precious faith in Christ to the Maharajah of Orissa who is a friend of his family. Rama's mind is made up. He is returning soon to Orissa where he will tell his family and acquaintances about salvation through faith in Jesus Christ.

Pray that God will use him in a mighty way.

By **DAVID A. WOMACK** / *Foreign Missions Editor*

Mission Pastors

MISSIONARY KENNETH WAGGONER and two Texas pastors—James E. Parsons and B. J. Manley—were killed Thursday, October 10, when the small plane in which they were flying crashed into the Atlantic Ocean just off the coast of Liberia, West Africa.

The disaster brings to eight the number of untimely deaths in our missionary family since early June. Airplane tragedies have claimed the lives of five.

Ken Waggoner, just finishing his first year as an Assemblies of God missionary to Liberia, had gone to the capital city of Monrovia to pick up the two American pastors. They had come from Sierra Leone where they had helped dedicate a new church.

James Parsons was pastor of the Bascom Assembly in Tyler, Texas, and B. J. Manley was pastor of the First Assembly in Whitehouse, Texas. The two ministers were to visit Assemblies missionaries in Liberia and then go on to Senegal before returning to their homes.

The three men had left Monrovia at about 4 p.m. in the Liberia field's Speed-the-Light airplane, a Cessna 172. Normally they should have reached Cape Palmas by six o'clock, but they did not arrive over the mission station until seven, which was after dark.

The plane buzzed the mission house, according to the usual procedure. Personnel at the house, which overlooks the airport, had taken cars down to the field earlier. When the plane approached for a landing, a few of the townsfolk also brought their cars to the nearby field.

The airport at Cape Palmas runs to within a few feet of the beach, so the normal approach to it is from the ocean. Ken Waggoner was an experienced pi-

Mary and Two Die in Air Crash

lot who had flown in and out of Cape Palmas perhaps as many as 200 times, for this was one of the main bases for the plane.

However, it was apparent from the way he circled the field that he could not see the dimly lighted landing strip clearly. The drivers of the cars aimed their headlights down the landing strip, but the plane never reached the shore.

It appeared to the missionaries watching from the house that Ken got his bearings and turned to line the plane up with the field. Whether there was a power failure or whether Ken thought he was over the airfield, the plane went down in the ocean some 200 or 300 yards from shore and sank in 42 feet of water.

Rescue attempts started immediately as Liberian fishermen launched out in the darkness and surf in their small dugout canoes. A merchant boat also joined them. Late in the night they discovered some books, film, and a few papers floating in the water. Among the items found was Ken Waggoner's pilot's certificate.

The next morning the Cape Palmas missionaries picked up other things from the plane including papers, pictures, and some pieces of luggage. Out where the plane had gone down there was an oil slick. A U.S. Navy plane arrived with divers, but they found that the crash and the surf had broken up the plane and scattered the wreckage over a wide area.

The divers found none of the bodies, but that afternoon that of B. J. Manley washed ashore four miles up the coast. It was several days before all three bodies were recovered.

Mary Waggoner, stationed 100 miles inland at New Hope Town, was notified immediately after her husband's accident. Though expecting her third

child in December, she was brought to Cape Palmas by car over rough interior roads. Arriving in a state of great shock, she was placed under a doctor's care.

Her parents, the Alfred Cawstons of Costa Mesa, California, flew to Liberia to help their daughter. Alfred Cawston is dean of students at Southern California College. He and his wife are former Assemblies of God missionaries to Ceylon and the Philippines.

The Waggoners' two daughters—Bonnie Lynn, 11, and Lucinda Dawn, 8—were almost 1,000 miles away at a mission school in Dakar, Senegal.

Ken Waggoner was not only the pilot for the Liberia field, but he also was acting director of New Hope Town—the Assemblies of God center for the treatment and evangelization of lepers. He and his wife Mary were just completing their first year of missionary service, having received their foreign missionary appointment in October 1967.

Mary Waggoner and her children are being brought home to the U.S.

The Foreign Missions Department once again appeals to the whole Assemblies of God fellowship to pray more earnestly for the safety of the missionaries. Our 918 foreign missionaries in 78 countries of the world need protection. For this reason we must provide good equipment and much prayer. We do provide our missionaries with the best equipment available, but we must back them with more prayer.

Every Assemblies of God missionary lives and works in some area of potential danger. We must renew a ministry of intercessory prayer for the daily deliverance of these servants of God who sacrifice so much to preach the gospel of Christ in other lands.

WM. KENNETH WAGGONER (April 8, 1934, to October 10, 1968) died when the small plane he was piloting crashed into the Atlantic Ocean off the coast of Liberia, West Africa. He was the pilot for the Liberia field and acting director of New Hope Town. Mr. Waggoner, his wife Mary, and their two small daughters went to Liberia in October 1967.



Mr. Waggoner is the son of George and Katheryn Waggoner, former Assemblies of God missionaries to India, where he was born.

Mr. Waggoner attended Central Bible College in Springfield, Missouri. He received his pilot's license from Damsky Flight School in 1962. The Waggoners were assistant pastors in Wilmington, California before their missionary appointment to Liberia.



BOBBY J. MANLEY (April 7, 1926, to October 10, 1968) died in the airplane accident which claimed the lives of James E. Parsons and Missionary Kenneth Waggoner off the

coast of Liberia. Brother Manley had accompanied Brother Parsons on the tour of African mission stations and had participated in the dedication of the church in Sierra Leone the Sunday prior to his death. Missionary Katie Jones of Sierra Leone was a member of Brother Manley's congregation, and his church had helped finance the building of the new Sierra Leone church.

Ordained in 1959 by the North Texas District, Brother Manley was pastor of the Assembly of God in Whitehouse, Texas. He is survived by his wife Margie and two children.

JAMES E. PARSONS (October 8, 1922, to October 10, 1968) lost his life when the small plane in which he was a passenger fell into the Atlantic Ocean just off the coast of Liberia.

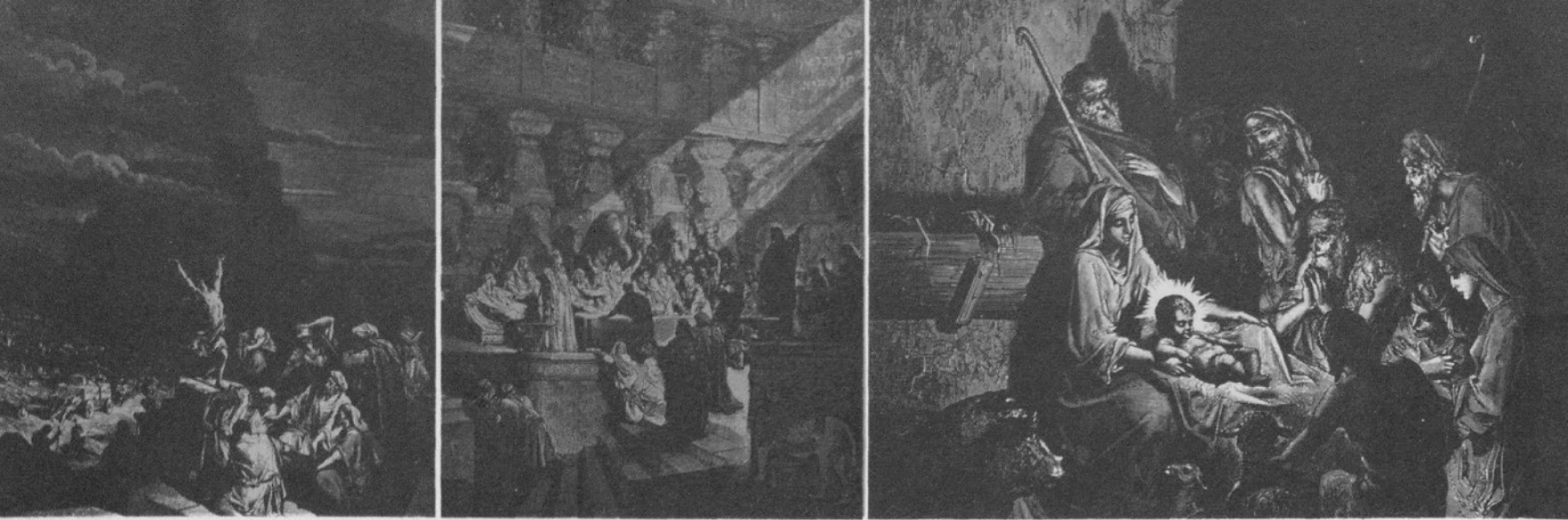


Brother Parsons had also participated in the dedication of a new church in Sierra Leone which the North Texas District had helped finance.

Brother Parsons was ordained in 1950 by the North Texas District and was pastor of the Bascom Assembly in Tyler, Texas. He was also presbyter of the Tyler Section.

He is survived by his wife Marjorie and three children.

Editor's note: The photos of Brother Manley and Brother Parsons were taken during the dedication of the new church in Sierra Leone.



GOD'S INTERRUPTIONS

By **KENNETH D. BARNEY** / *Pastor, Heights Assembly, Houston, Texas*

AND THE LORD CAME DOWN TO SEE" (Genesis 11:5). Thus the Bible describes the divine response to men's plans to build an anti-God society whose symbol was to be the tower "whose top may reach unto heaven."

When the stench of Sodom's evil became so foul that it penetrated the holy atmosphere of God's throne, we are told the Lord said, "I will go down now and see."

Human defiance reached another climax the night Belshazzar defiled the temple vessels. In a few minutes he saw the mysterious fingers writing his death sentence on the palace walls. Once again Someone from another world had "come down to see."

In His longsuffering and mercy, God does not intervene every time men sin. But through the centuries there have been those moments when He has stepped in to say, "Enough!"

Heaven's sudden actions at Babel, Sodom, and Belshazzar's feast were only minor interventions when compared to God's three *great* interruptions.

THE BETHLEHEM INTERRUPTION

Until that night of nights in the days of Herod the king, there had been no one who could save mankind. The spiritual infection that entered the world with Adam seemed to grow more virulent with each generation. It would require one completely sinless to save mankind, and the centuries went by without any such deliverer appearing.

Then suddenly it happened! There was an interruption in the long, dismal chronology of sin. One was born in the city of David who was *not* a sinner. God had stepped in miraculously and supernaturally. The course of history was changed. Spiritually, a new race was begun—the Babe in the manger was the Second Adam. By His perfect obedience to the Law and His atoning death, He made it possible for men to be born again and become new creatures. Sinners not only could be forgiven and redeemed, but could have new hearts on which the law of God would be written. Their bodies would become holy temples. The interruption had occurred. God had come down. The relentless tide was turned.

THE MIDAIR INTERRUPTION

To everyone with an interest in the coming of the Lord, there is always something spine-tingling about the words, "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord" (1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17).

There is the interruption of death. From Adam to the present time, the great enemy has been relentlessly cutting down every human being (with the miraculous exceptions of Enoch and Elijah). Every land is dotted with cemeteries. The procession to the grave never ends.

But death will not have the last word. In a flash there will be the Great Interruption. Multitudes of believers will never die! Those who have died will suddenly receive their glorified bodies. When God steps in, death must halt!

THE MOUNT OF OLIVES INTERRUPTION

When Jesus returns visibly with His saints, according to Zechariah 14:4, His feet shall stand upon the Mount of Olives. This will be the hour when men will at last have to bow the knee and confess, even though unwillingly, that Jesus Christ is Lord. This is the interruption of man's long, vicious insurrection against God and His authority over them. In a moment of time, history will experience an interruption that will change it forever. God will decide that rebellion and anarchy can be tolerated no longer. His mercy will turn into wrath. The day of grace will be turned into the day of judgment.

When Israel crossed the Red Sea on the way to Canaan, the waters rolled back and stood like a wall on either side until they had all passed over. But the minute the last Israelite had stepped on the other shore, those waters rolled back in, and the pursuing Egyptians were overwhelmed. Thus it will be in this world one day. When the feet of the saints leave the earth at the Rapture, the floods of judgment will cover every inch of this planet.



DRAWINGS BY PAUL GUSTAVE DORE

In Daniel 7 the rise of the Gentile empires that culminate in the rule of Antichrist are pictured rather dramatically. Daniel saw the four winds of heaven colliding and stirring up the sea until four great beasts—representing the Gentile kingdoms—rose out of the boiling waters. The picture is that of spiritual influences descending on the nations from every direction and churning them wildly until out of the storm come these world kingdoms. Today the churning of the sea of humanity has become violent indeed, and out of this will come the world empire to be ruled briefly by Satan's false messiah. During those days human defiance of God will reach its terrible climax.

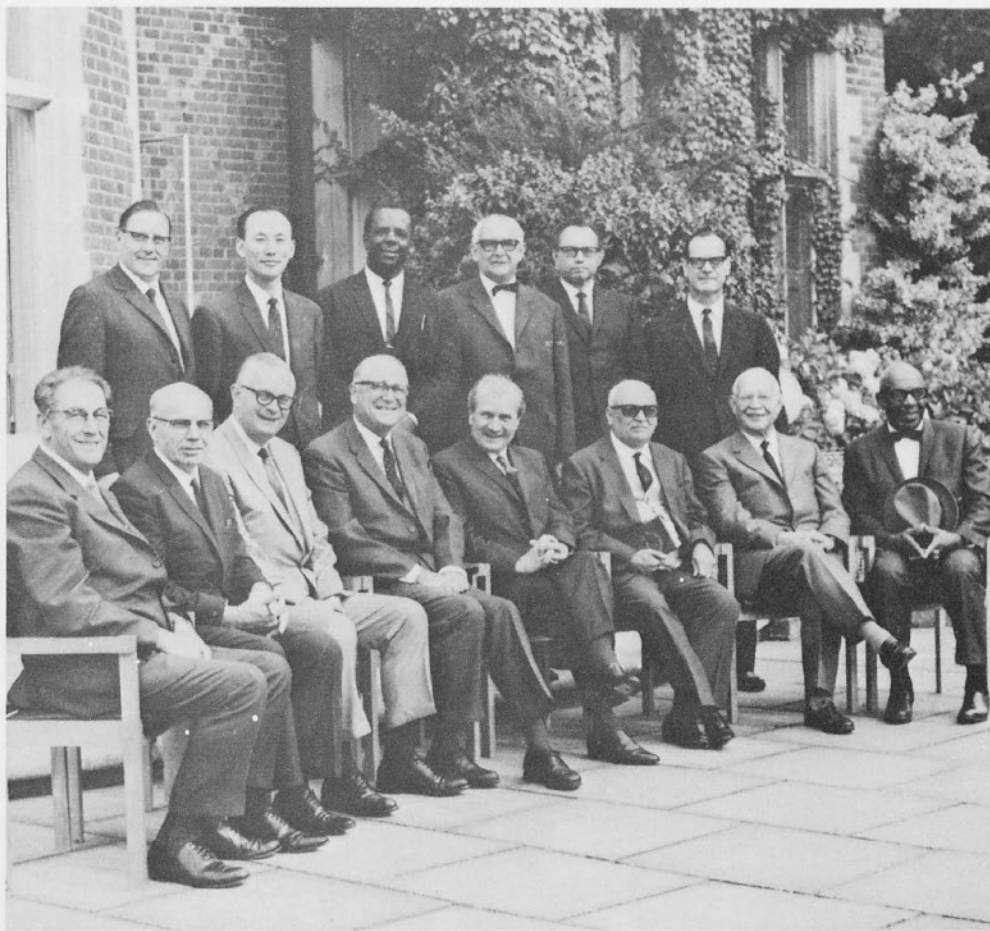
Ephesians 6:12 speaks of "the rulers of the darkness

of this world." The word *rulers* indicates a mysterious organization of the world's evil. The riots and commotions of the present time are worldwide; but no matter where they occur, a plan and pattern seems to run through the whole thing. Riots in Germany, France, and Japan in the news reports look just like riots in the United States. This is because these operations are being directed, not by men, but by evil spiritual powers. There is an unseen "headquarters"—a mysterious central "government" planning the strategy. Those who do the devil's bidding are being ruled by the invisible forces of the spirit world. The goal of these phantom legions is, of course, to dethrone God.

Though the present hour is a fearful one, there is going to be a bright and glorious aftermath. When the feet of the true Messiah stand on the Mount of Olives this seething rebellion will be quieted forever. Out of the ruins of a sin-devastated world God shall bring forth His eternal kingdom. There will be "new heavens and a new earth wherein dwelleth righteousness." The law of God will be the standard that will govern the human race.

How thankful we can be that the sovereign Ruler of this universe is not a casual bystander. He has "come down" before, and He will come down again. The rebels of this world are in for a terrible awakening. When He interrupts their godless schemes and brings them before His great tribunal, their arrogance and pride will be turned into stark terror. But for those who belong to Him, these great interruptions are a source of consolation and peace.

Advisory Committee for Ninth Pentecostal World Conference



THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE met in September to make plans for the Ninth Pentecostal World Conference, scheduled to be in Dallas, Texas, November 3-8, 1970. The committee met at Capel, Surrey, England, to choose a theme, select Conference speakers, and work out general arrangements for the triennial world gathering.

Shown seated, left to right: Erling Strom, Oslo, Norway; C. H. Stiller, Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada, Toronto; Thos. F. Zimmerman, Assemblies of God, Springfield, Missouri, USA; Howard Courtney, International Church of the Foursquare Gospel, Los Angeles, California; Percy S. Brewster, Elim Pentecostal Church, Cardiff, Wales; Paulo L. Macalao, Brazil Assemblies of God, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; Lewi Pethrus, Filadelfia Church, Stockholm, Sweden; S. M. Crouch, Church of God in Christ, Los Angeles, California.

Shown standing, left to right: Veikko Manninen, Salem Church, Helsinki, Finland; Cho Yonggi, Korea Assemblies of God, Seoul, Korea; Pat Ryan, Trinidad; Erwin Lorenz, Arbeitsgemeinschaft der Christen-Gemeinden, Germany; Alex Portugal, Church of God, Mexico; Charles W. Conn, Church of God, Cleveland, Tennessee, USA.

Officers of the Advisory Committee are Percy S. Brewster, chairman, and Howard P. Courtney, secretary. Working committees will be announced very soon.



THIS PRESENT WORLD

EVENTS

Jan. 5-12, 1969 Designated Week of Prayer in Assemblies of God

The Executive Presbytery of the Assemblies of God has issued a Call to the Fellowship to designate January 5-12, 1969, as a Week of Prayer in all Assemblies of God churches across the nation.

This Week of Prayer is scheduled to coincide with the beginning of the Year of Revival as outlined in the Five Year Plan of Advance at the recent Council on Evangelism in St. Louis.

In its Call to the Fellowship, the Executive Presbytery stated, "Revival is the great need of our time. Therefore we urge everyone in our churches to beseech the Lord earnestly as did David when he prayed: 'Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. . . . Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation' (Psalm 51:10-12)."

U.S. Congress on Evangelism Set for 1969

Minneapolis will be the site of a United States Congress on Evangelism September 8-14, 1969. An expected 8,000 religious leaders from scores of denominations across America will converge on the city's auditorium to focus attention on the nation's need of the gospel of Christ.

A National Committee of 45 evangelical leaders is sponsoring the Congress. Dr. Oswald C. J. Hoffmann of St. Louis is chairman and Evangelist Billy Graham is honorary chairman. Thomas F. Zimmerman, General Superintendent of the Assemblies of God, is a member.

The committee approved a plan whereby the 8,000 participants will come in the following proportions: one-third lay members of congregations; one-third parish pastors of congregations; and one-third evangelists, executives, educators, and seminary students. The congress format will include a position paper and panel each morning, seminar and encounter groups in the afternoon, and a public session each evening.

The idea for the congress developed from the World Congress on Evangelism which met in Berlin in 1966. The U.S. Congress is one of several which have been planned since the Berlin event. An African Congress was held in July 1968, followed by an Asia-South Pacific Congress early in November in Singapore. One is planned also in Latin America early in 1969.

Paul Fryhling, chairman of the executive committee of the congress, stated: "Delegates to the Berlin Congress went back to their home countries with a desire to move forward to evangelize a spiritually barren world. This is the goal that takes priority above all others, and it is the heart and core of the future of Christianity and all mankind."

OPINIONS

Poll Shows Europe's Opinions on God, Heaven, and Hell

Most Europeans believe in heaven but not in hell, according to a survey of opinion in 10 countries conducted by Gallup Polls.

Among the nations surveyed, Sweden showed the least attachment to traditional religious beliefs. Only 17 percent expressed belief in hell, and 60 percent in God. At the other extreme, 62 percent of the Greeks surveyed said they believed in hell and 96 percent believed in God.

In every country surveyed, a majority said that morals are getting worse.

Except for Greece, belief in hell was a minority opinion in all the countries surveyed. France had the second-lowest percentage, 22, and Norway the second-highest, 36. Among Roman Catholics polled, 90 percent believed in God, 56 percent in hell.

In a copyrighted report *The Telegraph* (London) listed the following as the main conclusions of the survey: (1) religious beliefs are declining; (2) morals have also slumped; (3) honesty is on the wane; (4) happiness is becoming increasingly hard to find; (5) peace of mind is rare; (6) hardly anyone believes in the devil.

We must not lose sight of a self-evident fact: spiritual truths are not decided by man's opinions!

Evangelical Symposium Studies Birth Control

An evangelical Protestant symposium, sponsored jointly by the Christian Medical Society and *Christianity Today*, Washington, D.C., recently declared that birth control is "not in itself forbidden or sinful, providing the

READ THE WORD

CHAPTERS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 1-8

Sunday	Philemon	Thursday	Hebrews 7, 8
Monday	Hebrews 1, 2	Friday	Hebrews 9, 10
Tuesday	Hebrews 3, 4	Saturday	Hebrews 11, 12
Wednesday	Hebrews 5, 6	Sunday	Hebrews 13

"How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him" (Hebrews 2:3).

reasons for it are in harmony with the total revelation of God for the individual life."

The interdenominational meeting of 30 evangelical physicians, psychiatrists, lawyers, sociologists, and theologians disagreed on whether all abortions are sinful, but was in accord on "the necessity and permissibility" of abortions under certain circumstances.

The 1,000-word declaration of the symposium on the Control of Human Reproduction began with a strong affirmation of the holiness of marital sex. It opposed situation ethics and condemned extramarital sex.

Says Students Are Sheltered from Religion

News commentator Paul Harvey recently charged that public school students in the U.S. are being "sheltered from religious instruction and exposed to all forms of non-Christian philosophy and behavior."

Speaking on his nationwide newscast to an estimated 20 million listeners, he declared: "Years ago it was argued that students maturing in a 'sheltered environment' would, like hot house plants, be unprepared for the cold outside world. Now, more and more Americans are realizing that it is in fact the public or state school student who is overprotected."

On the previous day, Mr. Harvey had addressed the California Association of Christian Schools. Perhaps Christian schools, which are the fastest-growing education movement in America (225 new Protestant schools are organized each year), can help to remedy the situation.

HEALTH

New Facts Emphasize Dangers of Smoking

The Public Health Service in Washington, D.C., has confronted Congress with new facts emphasizing the dangers of cigarette smoking. Lung disease is no longer the only recognized casualty of heavy smoking. The latest report states that "cigarette smoking can contribute to the development of cardiovascular disease and particularly to death from coronary heart disease."

The report goes on to estimate that "life expectancy among youth is reduced by an average of eight years in heavy cigarette smokers . . . and four years in light cigarette smokers."

The New York *Times* called for less parental permissiveness with teen-agers and more concern within the schools. An editorial suggested a major educational campaign which will begin by banning so-called "smoking areas" from the school premises.

The incongruities of cigarette advertising seem to heighten Congress' duty to enact curbs and strengthen warnings in the interest of public health.

Recommend Ban on Cigarette Advertising

Pressure is mounting against cigarette advertising in the U.S. The Federal Trade Commission, by a vote of 3-2, has asked Congress to outlaw all cigarette advertising on radio and television. One commissioner charged that the tobacco industry is trying to "obscure the fact that cigarette smoking is a dangerous and harmful habit which each year shortens the lives of hundreds of thousands of people."

YOUR QUESTIONS



ANSWERED BY ERNEST S. WILLIAMS

Must I have an ordained or licensed minister give me water baptism?

He should be one who is recognized by the church as being set apart to the ministry. Those commissioned to preach the gospel were also commissioned to baptize their converts. "Make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19, Revised). Philip the evangelist baptized his converts at Samaria (Acts 8:12).

How do you explain Ezekiel 16:4-6, concerning the baby that was cast into the open field?

Ezekiel 16 is a parable. The forsaken baby is Israel. The Lord sees it in its stricken condition, bathes, and cares for it. It grows into a beautiful maiden, much loved by Him who had found it and nourished it. Then sad disappointment comes to the Lord; she prostitutes herself, serves idols, and follows the ways of the heathen—the Egyptians, Philistines, and Assyrians.

Since the Bible says, "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers" (2 Corinthians 6:14), is it right for a pastor to marry a Christian to an unsaved person?

I think the pastor should earnestly seek to persuade any Christian to avoid becoming one with the ungodly, for that is what marriage means. "Can two walk together, except they be agreed?" (Amos 3:3). "Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness" (Ephesians 5:11). Read 2 Corinthians 6:14 to 7:1.

Only heartache or turning from Christ to the path of the ungodly can result from the union of Christians with the ungodly. All of us should hold fast and follow what the Bible teaches on this subject.

Who were the sons of God that chose daughters of men, making them their wives? (Genesis 6:2-4).

Two explanations are given. One is that the sons of God were descendants of Seth, the righteous line, in contrast to the descendants of Cain (Genesis 4:25). "Then began men to call upon the name of the Lord" (verse 26). Another translation is, "Then began men to call themselves by the name of the Lord." Those of the line of Seth crossed over, marrying the daughters of men, the unspiritual descendants of Cain, and this provoked divine judgment.

The other explanation is that the sons of God were angels who were already fallen or who fell by taking to themselves the daughters of men (Jude 6). However, this explanation raises questions. The Scriptures state everything brings forth "after his kind" (Genesis 1:11, 12, 24, 25). Angels are spirits. How could spirits take on human bodies and bring forth human children? Jesus spoke of angels as sexless (Matthew 22:30).

If you have a spiritual problem or any question about the Bible you are invited to write to "Your Questions," The Pentecostal Evangel, 1445 Boonville, Springfield, Missouri 65802. Brother Williams will answer if you send a stamped self-addressed envelope.



OBEYING THE WORD OF GOD

Sunday School Lesson for December 8, 1968

BY J. BASHFORD BISHOP

LUKE 6:20-49

LUKE'S VERSION of the Sermon on the Mount sets forth basic standards of conduct for Christian living.

FOUR BEATITUDES

1. *The blessedness of poverty* (v. 20). The poverty of which Jesus spoke here is poverty in spirit. (See Matthew 5:3.) The "poor in spirit" are those who are conscious of their spiritual need—the opposite of pride, self-sufficiency, self-satisfaction, unteachableness. Their blessedness lies in the fact that God has promised to supply all their needs.

2. *The blessedness of hunger*. Again the primary reference is to spiritual hunger—hunger after God and righteousness. God will always meet the seeking soul.

3. *The blessedness of godly mourning*. The mourning of which Jesus spoke is not a melancholy and complain-

ing disposition; not the sorrow that springs from disappointment, affliction, bereavement; not the mourning of wounded self-love and self-pity; nor mourning over the consequences of wrongdoing. Rather, it is the sorrow which springs from real repentance for sin, and leads to salvation (2 Corinthians 7:9-11); it is sorrow over the condition of this present evil world; it is the sorrow of Holy Ghost intercession which, though bitter, reaps a blessed reward. (See Lamentations 1:16; Ezekiel 9:3,4; Isaiah 66:8; Galatians 4:19.)

4. *The blessedness of persecution* (vv. 22, 23). There is no value in suffering from our sins or because of our foolishness, lack of wisdom, or uncongenial personality. But if we suffer for conscience' sake or as a result of actually doing the will of God, our reward in heaven will be great (1 Peter 2:19-21; 4:13, 14; 2 Timothy 2:12; Revelation 3:10).

FOUR WOES

Having given four beatitudes, Christ then pronounced four woes which are the exact antitheses, dealing as they do with the same matters.

1. *The snare of riches* (v. 24). It is not sinful to be rich, provided you do not live for wealth nor love it too much. Jesus was trying to teach here, "If you so live that riches are your source of satisfaction, you have sinned and have no eternal reward." Riches used for the glory of God, however, are heavenly investments.

2. *The snare of self-sufficiency* (v. 25). The warning here is against the spirit manifested by the Laodicean church: "Thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked" (Revelation 3:17).

3. *The snare of unbelieving laughter* (v. 25). This is the laughter of the mocking, derisive, unbelieving multitudes who sneer at the true gospel. After the coming of Christ and the outpoured judgment they shall not laugh; they shall weep and howl, but in vain (Matthew 24:50, 51; Revelation 6:15-17).

4. *The snare of popularity* (v. 26). We are to command the respect of the outside world by being honest, fair, kind, reliable, peaceable, and neighborly. We should so live that they shall not be able to point the finger of reproach at us. But we are never free to compromise our Christian ideals and standards in order to court favor with the world.

CONCERNING ATTITUDES

1. *Avoid retaliation and practice love* (vv. 27-31). How little do we accept the challenge of these verses! Here we have specific and clear directions for our attitudes toward those who wrong us in any way. Here is where the supernaturalness of the Christian life really appears. Even sinners can love those who love them. But the Christian has the privilege of winning his enemy by kindness, by love, and by intercessory prayer.

2. *Obey the golden rule* (v. 31). Here is the greatest and all-inclusive principle for Christian living. This little verse is recognized by the world at large as the greatest ethical standard ever proclaimed. The Christian life is not complex unless we make it so. The Golden Rule, as it is called, is a simple and unequivocal guide which can enable anyone to settle the question of his own attitudes and actions toward others.

ONLY THE REAL CASTLE WILL STAND





THIS NARRATIVE CANNOT be written in the first person. The young man involved is dead.

When I first met him, snow blanketed the ground and the sub-zero chill could not entirely be shut out of the small frame building that was being used as a hospital in Prince George, British Columbia.

In those days Prince George was a rough, frontier town. This young man had walked the dirt and gravel streets, clumped along the board sidewalks, and frequented the places of amusement until one day he was stricken down with a dread disease. When I stopped at his bedside and spoke to him, I could see that his condition was hopeless and that he recognized the fact.

"What a pity," I thought. "He is still young, yet he has nothing to look forward to in this life, and no hope for the next either."

I visited him several times and spoke to him about the way of salvation. He was not antagonistic. He did not reject the message I gave him. But his mind was darkened. He could not grasp the fact that God loved him.

He was a sinner and he knew it. He had lived for pleasure in disregard of the laws of God. Since he had paid no attention to God, he could not understand why God would pay any attention to him.

"You say that God loves me. Why would He be in-

terested in me, a sinner? He seems to be so very far away," he said.

I assured him that God did love him and that He gave His Son to die for him.

"When you know Him," I said, "He becomes very, very near. You must simply believe in Christ and receive Him as your personal Saviour. If you repent of your sin, He will forgive you."

Then I quoted 1 John 1:9—"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

I said good-bye and, as usual, left him some gospel literature to read. The next time I saw him he was much lower physically—but he was a new man spiritually. He had opened his heart to Christ. God's love had shone through the darkness.

He gave such a bright testimony of faith in the Saviour—and not only to me. A young person at our church told how she had stopped at the bedside of this young man and he had said to her: "Pastor Townsend has been speaking to me, and now I am not afraid to die. God loves me. The Lord Jesus Christ is my Saviour. I have no fear; I am trusting in the One who died and rose again to give me salvation. Because He lives, I too shall live eternally."

If I had any doubts of his conversion, they would have been erased by the fact he was witnessing to others. For the Bible says, "If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation" (Romans 10:9, 10).

When God's Love Shone Through



By **ARTHUR H. TOWNSEND**

Abbotsford, B.C., Canada

THYROID GLAND HEALED

TODAY I AM STRONGER and in better health than I had been for years. I'm so thankful that the Lord has healed me.

In October 1967 the doctor told me I had an under-active thyroid. He said that was why I was tired continually.

I began to take thyroid pills and increased them from one to three pills daily in 10 months. The medicine helped, but it made me very nervous and often caused headaches.

On August 21, 1968, at our Wednesday night prayer meeting, my pastor and others of the church anointed me with oil in the name of the Lord (James 5:14) and prayed the Lord to heal me. After prayer our pastor's wife said the words came to her, "Thy faith hath made thee whole."

I didn't take any more pills. After two weeks I went to the doctor for another thyroid test. The results showed my thyroid was better than normal.

I hope this testimony will help someone else to believe God to meet his need.—Martha Graves, Clark, Mo.

(Endorsed by Clifford Canon, pastor, Assembly of God, Clark, Mo.)

GOD HEALED ME



HEALED OF HERNIA AND ULCER

THE DOCTOR TOLD ME I would have to live with pain, due to my age, but God completely healed me.

In October 1966 I began to grow weak. I had such pain in my shoulders and the back of my head, I could not even lift my arms to comb my hair.

On New Year's Day 1967, I was taken to the hospital for X rays. They showed I had a double hernia under the right shoulder blade, and a bleeding ulcer.

The doctor said that nothing but an operation would relieve me, and he did not think I could stand the operation at the age of 81.

On Sunday, January 29, I went to church. I knew my pastor and all the church had been praying for me. The Lord completely healed me that day. I can't praise God enough for His wonderful healing power.—Mrs. Ina E. Honey, Toledo, Ohio.

(Endorsed by Laurence O. Wilson, Wyoming, Mich., who was Sister Honey's pastor at the time this healing occurred.)

WALKS AGAIN IN ANSWER TO PRAYER

FOR MORE THAN A YEAR I had been unable to walk without crutches. Now I can walk without them because God touched me.

For many years I had been bothered with arthritis, which grew steadily worse. I began to suffer much pain and last year I had to go on crutches even to do my housework. I was unable to attend church since I couldn't drive my car.

When Pastor Elsie M. Blair came to our assembly, she insisted that I go to church to be prayed for. She took me back and forth to church. It was a trial, as I could hardly get out of the house and into the church, but I went.

In the summer of 1968 we were having a wonderful praise service. The Lord told me to walk. At first I didn't obey. Then again He said, "Walk." I began to walk around the church without my crutches. Praise the Lord. I am still walking and improving all the time. Some evenings now I walk four blocks. I thank God for His healing power.—Theresa Schulz, Covington, Okla.

(Endorsed by Pastor Elsie M. Blair, Assembly of God, Covington, Okla.)

BACK INJURY HEALED INSTANTLY

MORE THAN THREE YEARS AGO the Lord healed my back. It has never bothered me again.

I hurt it in August 1965 while doing construction work. The pain was so severe I was unable to straighten up. The injury was in the lower vertebrae causing me to lean to one side. It was only with a great deal of effort that I was able to move about.

On Sunday night my roommate and I went to church. (I was serving as minister of education at Harbor Assembly in Costa Mesa and also teaching fifth and sixth grades in the Christian day school there.) Pastor Joseph Trucks and the elders of the church were praying for the sick according to James 5:13-16.

As they prayed for me, a warmth came over my soul and the wonderful love of God saturated my being. I began to praise God and to thank Him for salvation and for what I felt in my heart. Then I realized the pain was gone. My back was straight! God had healed me that very moment!

It was something everyone could see; no one could doubt what had taken place, for I was now able to walk straight and move without pain.

This miracle left a deep impression upon my roommate. Shortly before this he had almost been an atheist, saying the days of miracles were past and even doubting the inspiration of the Bible. When God healed me, it caused him to have a deeper faith; his life was changed that summer.

I find it easier to pray for others who need healing now because I know personally that God heals and meets the needs of people today.—David A. Newberry, pastor, Glad Tidings Assembly, Ponca City, Okla.